Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service

Farm Facts

USDA

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Tennessee's Wheat Production the Lowest in Ten Years

Tennessee's 2002 wheat production is estimated at 13.8 million bushels, down 25 percent from last year's 18.4 million bushels and the lowest in 10 years. Growers sowed 470,000 winter wheat acres in the fall of 2001, down 30,000 acres from a year ago, and harvested 300,000 acres for grain, down 12 percent from 2001 and the lowest level since 1994. Wheat acreage used for other purposes such as silage, hay, or cover crop totaled 170,000 acres. Yields averaged 46 bushels per acre, 8 bushels below last year. Seeding of the 2002 winter wheat crop began in early October 2001. Rainfall provided excellent soil moisture for germination throughout most of the month. However, by the beginning of November, producers were in need of rain to aid germination and improve stands. The dry weather caused both seeding delays and emergence problems, which had the crop lagging behind the previous year and the normal pace. In April 2002, a cold front came across the State, causing minor freeze damage but no significant yield loss at that time. Throughout the month of May, the wheat crop was rated in mostly good condition. However, during mid-month, wet conditions resulted in several leaf-type diseases including glume blotch, scab, and leaf rust, as well as flooding. During June, farmers experienced warm temperatures and dry conditions, allowing for a timely harvest of the crop. Virtually all of the State's winter wheat was harvested by the end of June, surpassing the normal pace.

U.S. Wheat Production

All wheat production totaled 1.62 billion bushels in 2002, down 4 percent from the last forecast and 17 percent below 2001. This is the lowest production since 1972. Grain area is 46.0 million acres, down 5 percent from last year and the smallest area harvested since 1970. The U.S. yield is 35.3 bushels per acre, down 4.9 bushels from a year ago. Levels of production and change from last year by type are: winter wheat, 1.14 billion bushels, down 16 percent; other spring wheat, 402 million bushels, down 22 percent; and Durum wheat, 80.2 million bushels, down 4 percent.

Winter Wheat: Tennessee, Surrounding States, and U.S., Final, 2002 with Comparisons

State	Acreage Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 Acres		Bushels		1,000 Bushels	
Tennessee	**340**	**300**	**54.0**	**46.0**	**18,360**	**13,800**
Alabama	70	60	48.0	40.0	3,360	2,400
Arkansas	970	840	52.0	46.0	50,440	38,640
Georgia	200	200	53.0	41.0	10,600	8,200
Kentucky	360	340	66.0	53.0	23,760	18,020
Mississippi	225	205	52.0	44.0	11,700	9,020
Missouri	760	760	54.0	45.0	41,040	34,200
North Carolina	470	480	39.0	42.0	18,330	20,160
Virginia	170	170	60.0	63.0	10,200	10,710
United States	31,295	29,651	43.5	38.5	1,361,479	1,142,802

Cotton Ginnings: Running Bales Ginned(Excluding Linters) Prior to September 15, by Crop, State, and United States, Crop Years 1999-2002

State	Running Bales Ginned			
	1999	2000	2001	2002
All Cotton				
AL[1]	5,300	12,200	---	3,150
AZ	7,600	25,300	16,850	12,300
AR	18,200	26,400	26,250	3,150
CA[1]	0	---	1,700	---
FL [1]	---	---	---	---
GA	10,800	3,700	1,650	21,150
LA	50,350	122,700	4,550	18,650
MS	71,200	125,700	16,900	45,650
MO	12,200	5,200	6,800	
NM[1]	0	---	0	0
NC[1]	0	0	0	100
OK[1]	---	---	0	0
SC[1]	---	700	---	200
Tennessee	**7,150**	**22,250**	**6,400**	---
TX	835,300	1,108,000	720,000	790,900
VA	---	---	---	---
US	1,018,350	1,453,850	801,700	898,000

[1] Not published to avoid disclosing individual gins, but included in the U.S. totals.

Grain Stocks: Tennessee and U.S., September 1, 2002 with Comparisons

Crop	Tennessee			United States		
	Sept 1, 2001	Jun 1, 2002	Sept 1, 2002	Sept 1, 2001	Jun 1, 2002	Sept 1, 2002
	1,000 Bushels					
On-Farm Stocks [1]						
Corn				753,150	2,020,600	586,800
Wheat				696,850	216,830	588,200
Soybeans				83,500	301,200	62,700
Grain Sorghum				8,900	17,300	7,400
Oats				74,800	28,650	70,500
Off-Farm Stocks [2]						
Corn	1,413	5,346	1,746	1,145,958	1,576,290	1,012,620
Wheat	8,321	1,936	6,191	1,458,964	560,282	1,151,952
Soybeans	247	1,274	128	164,247	383,721	145,487
Grain Sorghum	13	---	---	32,851	88,178	51,975
Oats	93	174	70	41,592	34,552	40,982
Total Stocks						
Corn				1,899,108	3,596,890	1,599,420
Wheat				2,155,814	777,112	1,740,152
Soybeans				247,747	684,921	208,187
Grain Sorghum				41,751	105,478	59,375
Oats				116,392	63,202	111,482

[1] Estimates for Tennessee on-farm stocks are not published. [2] Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.

U.S. Hog Inventory: U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on September 1, 2002, was 60.2 million head. This was 1 percent above September 1, 2001, and slightly above June 1, 2002. Breeding inventory, at 6.05 million head, was down 2 percent from September 1, 2001, and down 2 percent from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 54.2 million head, was 1 percent above last year and slightly above last quarter.

The June-August 2002 U.S. pig crop, at 25.1 million head, was 2 percent less than both 2001, and 2000. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.83 million head, 2 percent below last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 46 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs per litter was 8.87 pigs saved per litter for the June-August 2002 period, unchanged from last year.

Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.00 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs. U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.82 million sows farrow during the September-November 2002 quarter, 2 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period in 2001, and 1 percent below 2000. Intended farrowings for December 2002-February 2003, at 2.81 million sows, are 1 percent below the same period in 2002, but up 2 percent from 2001. The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 35 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, unchanged from last year.

Large Operations Increase Share of Milk Production: The makeup of the U.S. dairy herd by size of operation and location has changed significantly over the past 5 years. A brief summary of the changes in herd structure is outlined below. This information is being provided to the dairy industry and data users by the National Agricultural Statistics Service as an aid in understanding the structural changes that have occurred. The overall number of milk cow operations continues to decline in the United States. There were 123,700 milk cow operations in the U.S. in 1997 compared to 97,560 in 2001, a decline of 21 percent. During this same period, milk cow inventory declined from 9.25 million head in 1997 to 9.12 million head in 2001.

Despite the decrease in milk cow operations and inventory, milk production increased 6 percent, from 156,091 million pounds in 1997 to 165,336 million pounds in 2001, as large operations increased their share of production. Operations with more than 500 head accounted for 39 percent of all milk produced in 2001, up from 29 percent in 1997 (the first year of data for operations with more than 500 head). Conversely, operations with less than 500 head accounted for 61 percent of total production in 2001 compared to 71 percent in 1997. In 2001, operations with more than 500 head accounted for 35 percent of total milk cow inventory compared with only 24 percent in 1997. Operations with less than 500 head accounted for 65 percent of inventory in 2001, down from 76 percent in 1997. During this same period, the number of operations with more than 500 head has grown from 2,336 in 1997 to 2,795 in 2001, an increase of 20 percent. The number of operations with less than 500 head decreased from 121,364 to 94,765, a decrease of 22 percent. The annual average rate of milk production per cow for operations with more than 500 head increased slightly from 20,328 pounds in 1997 to 20,446 pounds in 2001. Milk per cow for operations with less than 500 head increased 7 percent, from 15,755 pounds in 1997 to 16,919 in 2001. Production per cow on operations with less than 500 head continues to increase as small, less efficient operations exit the industry. However, total production in this size group has declined 8 percent during this period as milk cow inventory decreased 15 percent. Meanwhile, despite the relatively modest gain in production per cow on 500 plus head operations, total production increased significantly due to the increase in milk cow inventory.

Geographically, milk production continues to migrate to the western States, primarily from the southeastern and midwestern States. Comparing pounds of milk produced in 2001 to 1997, States showing the largest increases were California, Idaho and New Mexico. The only western State that did not show an increase was Wyoming. The largest declines occurred in Texas, Missouri and Minnesota. The shift in production is mainly attributed to a shift in milk cow inventory. For example, California's milk production totaled 33,251 million pounds in 2001, up 21 percent from 1997. The number of milk cows increased 14 percent, while the average rate per cow increased only 5 percent during the same period. The States showing the largest increase in milk cow inventory between 1997 and 2001 were California, Idaho and New Mexico while the largest inventory losses were recorded in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Texas and Missouri. Western States that did not show an inventory increase were Montana, Nevada, Washington and Wyoming. Indiana, Kansas and Nebraska were the only non-western States to show an increase in milk cows from 1997. In conclusion, the number of small operations continues to decline while the larger, more efficient operations continue to increase their share of milk cow inventory and milk production.

Even though operations with more than 500 head accounted for only 3 percent of the milk cow operations during 2001, they accounted for nearly 40 percent of total U.S. production. This is up from 1997 when the 500 plus head operations accounted for 2 percent of the operations and only 29 percent of total production. Furthermore, milk cow inventory and milk production are shifting to the western half of the United States. Specifically, in the last 5 years there has been substantial increases in both total milk production and milk cow inventories in California, Idaho and New Mexico.

U.S. Prices Received Index: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in September was 99, based on 1990-92=100, down 1 point (1.0 percent) from the August index. Lower prices for hogs, potatoes, lettuce, and strawberries more than offset increased prices for wheat, corn, broccoli, and broilers. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affects the overall index. Decreased marketings of cattle, wheat, broilers, and grapes more than offset increased marketings of soybeans, corn, peanuts, and potatoes.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is also 7 points (6.6 percent) below September 2001. Lower prices for milk, broilers, hogs, and lettuce more than offset higher prices for corn, wheat, soybeans, and broccoli. The Food Commodities Index decreased 1 point (1.0 percent) below last month to 97, and was 11.0 percent below September last year.

Prices Paid Index Up 1 Point: The September Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 125 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index was up 1 point (0.8 percent) from August and September 2001. Higher prices in September for complete feeds, feed grains, feeder cattle, and diesel fuel more than offset lower prices for feeder pigs.

Prices Received by Farmers: Tennessee & U.S., September 2002 with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Tennessee			United States		
		September 2001	August[1] 2002	September[2] 2002	September 2001	August[1] 2002	September[2] 2002
		Dollars Per Unit					
Winter Wheat	bu.	2.61	3.27	---	2.81	3.63	4.00
Corn	bu.	1.97	2.54	2.75	1.91	2.38	2.56
Cotton Lint	lb.	---	.352	.285[3]	.385	.330	.325[3]
Soybeans	bu.	4.67	5.64	5.70	4.53	5.53	5.54
All beef cattle	cwt.	64.60	56.80	55.40	69.00	64.30	64.60
Steers/heifers	cwt.	81.00	72.00	71.00	72.10	67.10	67.60
Cows	cwt.	40.00	34.00	32.00	40.80	36.40	35.40
Calves	cwt.	91.00	77.00	77.00	107.00	94.40	93.00

[1] Entire month. [2] Mid-month. [3] Based on purchases first half of month.

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